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Case WM 135

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Wolfram Salz et al

Title: LAMELLAR ROOF

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 29, 2003

SIR:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - SECTION 1.97(b)

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, applicants' representative hereby submits US Patent & Trademark Office Form PTO-1449. Copies of the references cited therein are submitted for consideration in the examination of the above-referenced patent application. It is respectfully requested that they be made of record, along with whatever references the Examiner may find in the course of a search, should the Examiner consider them material to the subject application.

The references have been discussed in the international search report. However, they have all been marked "A" by the Examiner as relating only to background information.

The references do not disclose that in a lamellar roof for a motor vehicle a support structure for the roof lamella section is provided in which the guide and operating mechanism is simplified and tolerance variations are reduced and which provides for firm support of the roof lamella sections also when the roof is open to avoid rattling noises. This is achieved in that the lamella sections are supported by lamella carriers and each lamella carrier is supported on two adjacent guide carriages, and a control rocker is

provided on each carriage so as to be movable out of a basic closed position to a roof opening position, in which it raises the rear edges of said lamella sections to tilt the lamella section upwardly, the guide carriage of said front lamella section carrier and the control rocker projecting, in opening direction, beyond said connection and being supported, in the projecting area, on the lamella carrier.

This Statement is hereby submitted under Section 1.97(b) since it is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'K. Bach', written in a cursive style.

Klaus J. Bach, Reg. No.: 26832

FORM PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			ATTY. DOCKET NO. WM 135		SERIAL NO.	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT					APPLICANT Wolfram Salz et al.			
(Use several sheets if necessary)					FILING DATE		GROUP	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
EX. IN.		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
		199 27 654	07/20/00	DE				X
		197 20 822	03/11/99	DE				X
		195 29 702	09/12/96	DE				X
		196 08 916	04/17/97	DE				X
		198 56 873	02/10/00	DE				X
		WO99/11479	03/11/99	PCT				X
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.